

LESSON

Across the Jordan

Imagine your father is helping to move friends to a new country. You can send notes back and forth to your father. You have many questions, including how your dad is going to get where he's going because there's a big, flooded river to cross and there is no bridge or boat. (See Joshua 1; 3; 4; Patriarchs and Prophets, pp. 481-486.)

Sabbath

Do Do this week's activity on page 24.

Sunday

Read Read "Across the Jordan."

Learn Begin to learn the power text.

List List all the things God told Joshua to do to be a good leader (Joshua 1:6-9).

Pray Ask God for opportunities to serve Him this week in new situations.

THREE

POWER POINT

The following “letters” are the imagined correspondence between a father and son from the tribe of Reuben:

Abba, Shalom!

Father, what’s happening now? I’m worried that things just won’t be the same without Moses as our leader. Can Joshua do a good job? Will you still go into the Promised Land? If you go, when will it be, and how will you get there? Please write to me as soon as possible and tell me everything. I think about you often, and I pray that you are OK.

—Baram

Shalom, My Son!

Please don’t worry, Baram; everything will be fine. Even though Moses is dead, Adonai has not left us; His presence is still with us in the pillar of cloud over the tabernacle.

Joshua is a faithful servant of Adonai, and he has been Moses’ assistant since he was a young man. Adonai has chosen Joshua, and He is with him. We will follow Joshua just as we followed Moses.

You asked about the Promised Land. Yes, we are going into the Promised Land very soon. Today we received orders to prepare to cross the Jordan River. I don’t know where or how we will cross yet—the Jordan has flooded its banks, and the water is flowing quite swiftly.

New situations bring new opportunities to serve and witness for God.

POWER TEXT

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go”

(Joshua 1:9, NIV).

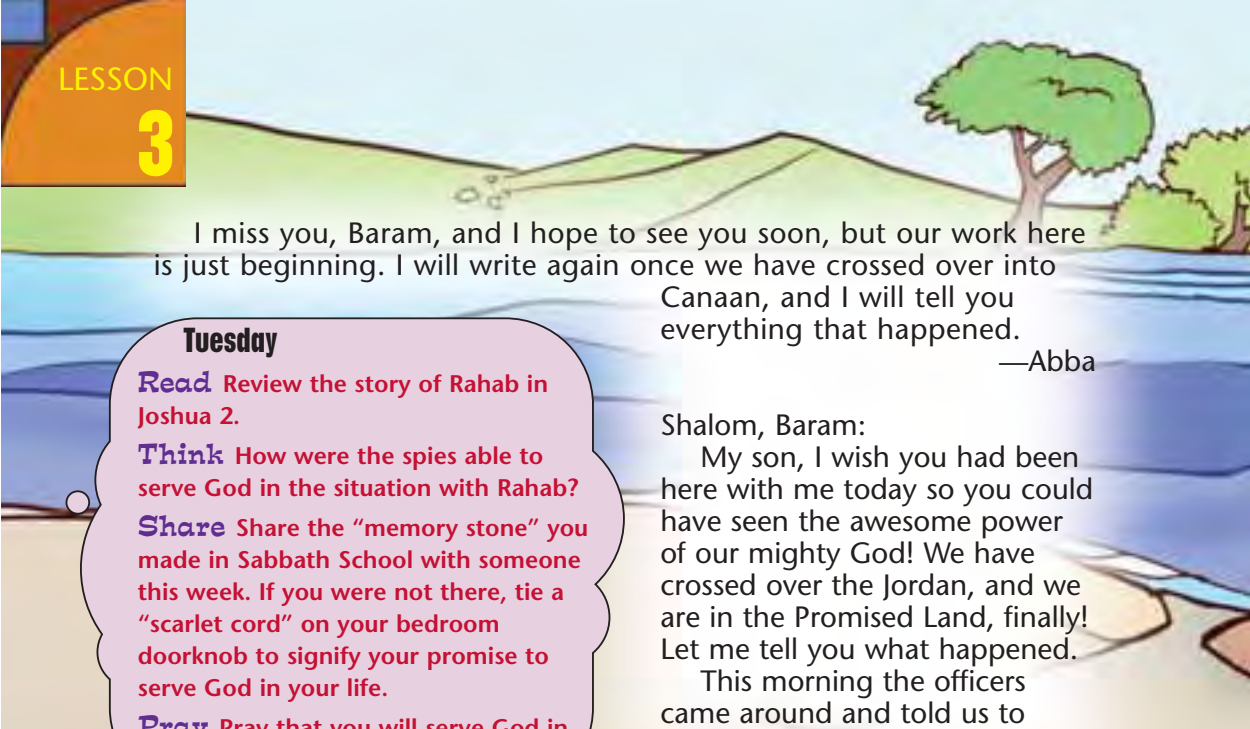
Monday

Read Read Joshua 1.

List List all the promises God makes in Joshua 1.

Think Which of these promises are applicable to you today?

Pray Pray that God will give you courage wherever He leads you in life.



I miss you, Baram, and I hope to see you soon, but our work here is just beginning. I will write again once we have crossed over into Canaan, and I will tell you everything that happened.

—Abba

Tuesday

Read Review the story of Rahab in Joshua 2.

Think How were the spies able to serve God in the situation with Rahab?

Share Share the “memory stone” you made in Sabbath School with someone this week. If you were not there, tie a “scarlet cord” on your bedroom doorknob to signify your promise to serve God in your life.

Pray Pray that you will serve God in any situation.

Shalom, Baram:

My son, I wish you had been here with me today so you could have seen the awesome power of our mighty God! We have crossed over the Jordan, and we are in the Promised Land, finally! Let me tell you what happened.

This morning the officers came around and told us to



watch the ark and to follow it wherever it went. All of the soldiers, the men from the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh, were instructed to stay in front of the people, so I was able to see everything. First, the priests who were carrying the ark began moving toward the Jordan River. A loud whisper went through the crowd, and then everyone became silent. I felt my skin tingling with excitement. We were all marching straight toward the water as if we were going to walk across on the top of it. I held my breath as the priests' feet touched the water at the edge of the river. The water stopped flowing!

I have never seen anything like it; it was the most amazing sight!

There was a loud cheer, and all the people began talking and shouting as the news spread through the crowd. The priests walked ahead and stood in the middle of



Wednesday

Read Read Joshua 3.

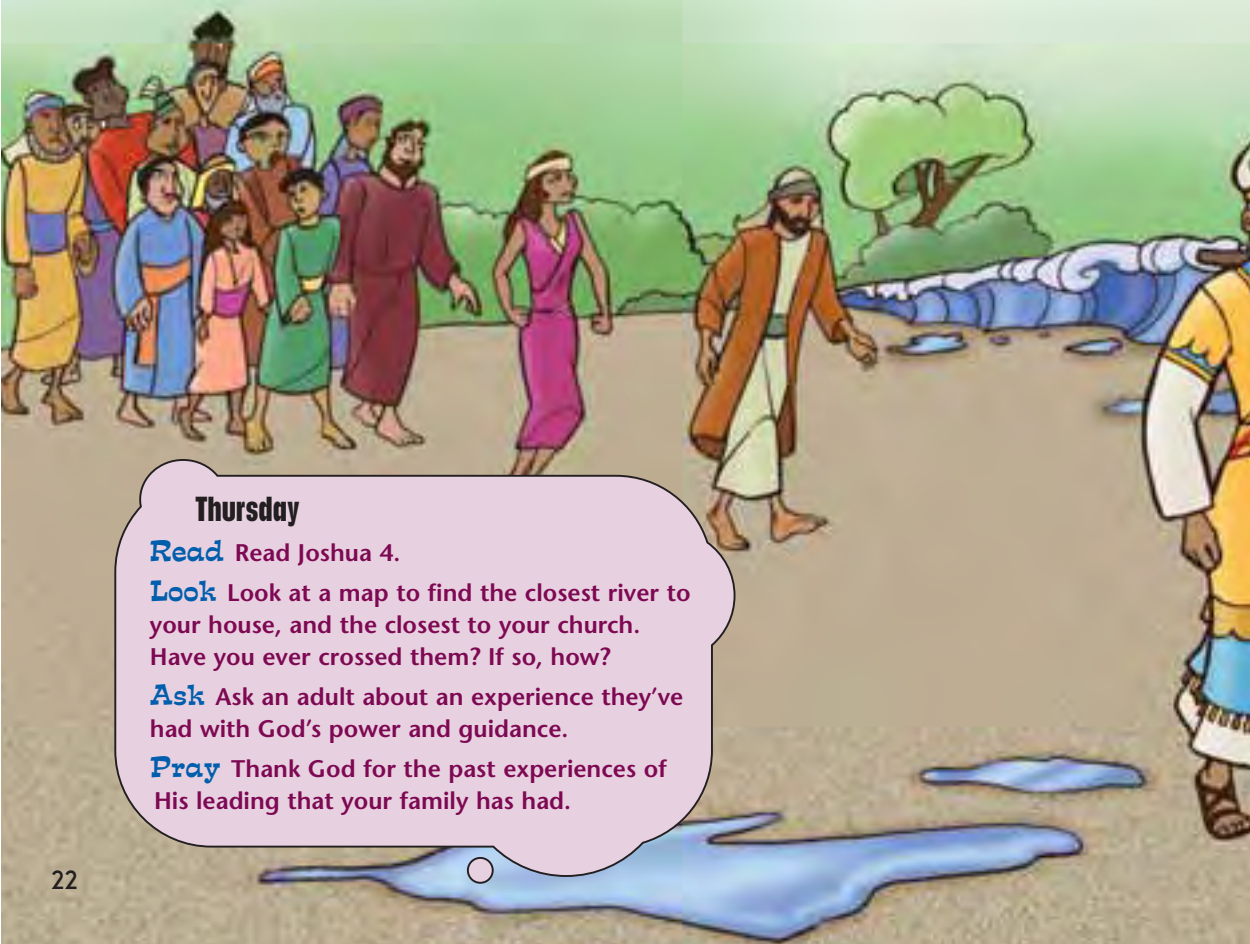
Sing Sing "On Jordan's Stormy Banks" from *The Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal*, No. 620.

Think What does the "Jordan" represent in this song? What does "Canaan" represent in this song?

Pray Pray that you will keep your eyes on "Canaan" as you pass through this "Jordan."

the riverbed while everyone crossed over on dry ground. After everyone had gone over into Canaan, Joshua commanded 12 leaders to each take a stone from the place where the priests had been standing. Then he commanded the priests carrying the ark to come up from the Jordan.

What do you think happened then? When the priests came out of the riverbed, the water came rushing in and the river returned to normal. It was just like it must have been at the Red Sea. There was no path, but Adonai provided one for us. Hallelujah! Praise Adonai! For the first time we worshiped God in the Promised Land today. I was so happy, I cried tears of joy. Everyone sang praises to God and worshiped Him. My son, you should have heard the singing! It seemed like the birds and the trees and the whole land were singing, rejoicing and praising God with us. Hallelujah!



Thursday

Read Read Joshua 4.

Look Look at a map to find the closest river to your house, and the closest to your church. Have you ever crossed them? If so, how?

Ask Ask an adult about an experience they've had with God's power and guidance.

Pray Thank God for the past experiences of His leading that your family has had.

Friday

When we set up camp for the night, an altar was built with the stones from the river Jordan so that everyone will know of our God's great power. Baram, I can't wait to show you the altar and this wonderful land that Adonai has given to us.

—Abba

Tell Tell the story of the crossing of the Jordan to your family at worship.

Build Find 12 rocks or other objects that you can pile up to make a temporary altar to God. As you find each one and put it in place, name something special that God has done for your family.

Sit Sit with your family around the altar and think of new ways you can share your witness of what God has done for you.

Pray Thank God for giving you opportunities to share Him with others in new ways.



God With Us

Instructions: The words in each vertical column go into the squares directly below them, but not necessarily in the order they appear. When you have placed all the words in their correct squares, you will be able to read the Bible verse across the diagram from left to right.

for be be "Be	terrified; with the strong	and do you Lord	wherever not your courageous.	Do you be God	will go." discouraged, not

Friends of the Living God

Instructions: Find each word in the Bible verse hidden in the puzzle below. The words twist and turn (either forward, backward, upward, downward, or diagonally), and most do not follow a straight line. If the word appears more than once in the verse, then you need to find it more than once in the puzzle. The first letter of each word is adjacent to (next to) the last letter of the previous word, so you should be able to draw a line through the whole puzzle without lifting your pencil.

"YOU ARE MY FRIENDS IF YOU DO WHAT I COMMAND" (John 15:14, NIV).

P D Y A A N Y I S M H
 A X Q Y Y J F M D G V
 A W J M Q I Y N K R J
 A H O I D O N E I C O
 T I C D U M L R P J C
 Y O J D J M Y F O L K
 M G N J E R Y O W Q U
 M A R E T A U G N G O